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## NOTES.

*Told by the Colonel* is really told by W. L. Alden, in the style so characteristic of the humorist of the *Times*. Half a score or so of short "yarns" make up a volume good to refresh the jaded mind. (J. Selwin Tait & Sons.)

*The Riverside Song Book*, (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 30 cents.) is an interesting collection of American poems, set to standard music. There are no less than three indexes, first the usual table of contents, then an index of authors, and finally a topical index. The book shows clearly the workmanship of practical teachers in its conception and arrangement. We commend it cordially to the attention of all who are interested in music in schools, as a work of exceptional merit.

De Vigny's *Cinq-Mars*, edited by Charles Sankey, deserves especial notice among recent issues of Heath's Modern Language Series. Large omissions have necessarily been made in order to bring the work within the compass of one small volume, but the narrative of the omitted chapters is supplied by a concise synopsis in English, so that the interest in the story is fully maintained. The notes, especially on the historical side, seem to be unusually good.

The fourth number of *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology* (Ginn & Co.) contains among other articles a discussion of the Aulos or Tibia by Prof. Albert A. Howard. The dissertation is especially noteworthy as containing a description of existing instruments, among which those discovered at Pompeii Prof. Howard has examined carefully and has given in detail the results of his experiments. Of especial interest to teachers is a brief paper on Latin Etymologies by Prof. J. B. Greenough.

To condense so picturesque and variegated a story as the history of France within the limits of 300 small octavo pages, preserving the picturesqueness and keeping a true historical perspective, is no easy undertaking. In *A First History of France*, by Louise Creighton, (Longmans, Green & Co.), this task has been attempted, and the result is a very satisfactory work for young readers. Maps are numerous and clear. A number of reproductions of old woodcuts furnish illustrations of historic interest. One could wish there were more of them. The work makes an attractive, readable book.

Our readers will not fail to notice that in certain respects we are not this month what we were last. Different paper and different type certainly make a difference. The change of paper is due to the growing conviction of the editors, stimulated and strengthened by the advice of many warm friends of the *SCHOOL REVIEW*, that a rough surfaced paper did not give as good results or make as good a magazine for reading purposes as a paper having a smoother finish. All through the past year we have been reaching this conclusion. The time to make a change is with the beginning of a new volume. We believe the change will be generally approved by our readers.

Some may be inclined to doubt the advisableness of including in the list of classics for children the *Thoughts of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*, but granting the propriety of doing so, there should be only words of welcome for the work in the form in which Messrs. Ginn & Co. have sent it forth. Long's translation as published by Little, Brown & Co., has been printed entire, but occasional liberties have been taken with the biography and the chapter on the philosophy. Mr. Edwin Ginn supplies a preface of four pages in which he sets forth the reasons that have led him to include the *Thoughts* in the series. In general the make-up of the book is much superior to many more expensive volumes and should prove attractive to some who are no longer children.

From Macmillan & Co. we have received *Pindar: The Olympian and Pythian Odes*, edited by C. A. M. Fennell, (Cambridge: The University Press, 1893. Price \$2.25). Fennell's *Olympian and Pythian Odes of Pindar* was first published in 1879 and has long been favorably known. This edition, the preface states, is virtually a new work. The introduction occupies 30 pages and discusses in succinct form Pindar's life and poetry, his style and dialect, and Pindaric rhythms and metres. Among American editors obligation is acknowledged to Prof. Seymour and Prof. Gildersleeve, and in the commentary reference to Prof. Goodwin's "Modes and Tenses" are frequent. Like all the works that issue from the Cambridge University Press this book is distinguished by beauty of print and elegance of form.

Erastus Wiman's *Chances of Success* is not easy to characterize in a few words. It is not a treatise, but rather a book of personal experience. It is interesting, undoubtedly. A great deal of practical wisdom and good common sense lies between its covers. The American eagle here screams more mildly than usual and on a different key. The book recognizes and makes clear the valuable but too often despised fact that we are now passing over from a new civilization to an old civilization. We are getting grown up, and the exceptional conditions that have prevailed on this continent are changing and to change. It is well to recognize this, not pessimistically, but squarely. Mr. Wiman's earnest advice to go back to the soil is sound and timely. Boys and young men will read this book with interest and profit.

From Messrs. Ginn & Co., we have received a copy of Part I of Dr. Waldstein's accounts of the *Excavations of the American School of Athens at the Heraion of Argos, 1892*. The work consists of twenty quarto pages accompanied by eight plates showing views of the site of the excavations and of the various objects found. Dr. Waldstein's purpose is thus to lay before the archæological world the chief results of the excavations in advance of the elaborate study which will be necessary before they can be set forth in detail and their precise value defined. Of course the most important of the finds is the already famous head of Hera, of which the two plates given represent a front and profile view. On this work Dr. Wald-

stein passes judgment thus: "The head of Hera is a work of the fifth century B. C. Until it can satisfactorily be proved not to be so, we have reason to consider it a representative of the Argive school of art of the second half of the fifth century and, as such, to hold some relation to the work of Polykleitos who established the ideal type of Hera in this temple."

To the Graduate club of Harvard belongs principally the credit of compiling the first list of graduate courses offered by American universities. The volume at hand entitled *Graduate Courses, A Handbook for Graduate Students*, is published by Messrs. Ginn & Co. In the preparation of the work the Harvard club has had the assistance of committees of similar clubs at Cornell, Johns Hopkins, and Yale. The book contains 73 pages, and the lists of courses are grouped under the general heads of: I. Languages and Literature; II. Philosophy, History, and the Fine Arts; III. Pure Science. All the courses offered for 1893-1894 by the following institutions are given in full: Bryn Mawr, Chicago, Clark, Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Yale. A brief introduction descriptive of the several institutions is prefixed and the courses open to women are indicated. It is proposed to print an annual edition of this work, and the book cannot fail to be of great interest to the ever increasing body of graduate students in our American universities.

Of local interest chiefly is *A History of the Schools of Syracuse*, from its earliest settlement to January 1, 1893, by Edward Smith (C. W. Barden, Syracuse, N. Y. Price \$3.). The preparation of this volume was ordered by a vote of the board of education passed in May, 1889 and the task was intrusted to Principals A. S. Kinne and Edward Smith. After the death of Mr. Kinne in January, 1890 the work was executed by Mr. Smith, whose long experience of 48 years in the schools of Syracuse enables him to speak of most of the events in the history from personal familiarity. The volume does not pretend to give more than an unambitious recital of events usually in chronological order. There is prefixed a chapter on the "Early Beginnings." From 1848—when the city charter was adopted—the treatment of the narrative is by decades. Appended to Chapter VI, "Beginning of the Fifth Decade," is an account of the city library. Chapter VII contains lists of the members of the board of education, of the presidents of the boards, superintendents and clerks, since 1848, various statistical tables and an alphabetical list of teachers. An appendix contains various biographical sketches and a complete list of the various classes graduated from the high school.